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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
ANTONUCCI et al
Serial No.: 09/702,322
Filed: October 31, 2000
For: POLYMERIC...ABOVE 100°C

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April 25, 2002

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April 25/2002
D. Volcanicev
Director of Patent and Trademark Office

AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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APR 29 2002

TC 1700

Responsive to the office action of January 17, 2002 please
amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Sub D1

Claim 12 (amended) A method for conditioning a polymeric
proton exchange membrane for operation at temperatures above 100°C,
the method comprising the steps of:

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- a: heating the membrane to a temperature at least about 5°C
above its said intended operating temperature;
- b: selecting a desired percentage of conversion of the
membrane polymer from an initial amorphous state to a
crystalline stage;
- c: holding said membrane at an elevated temperature for a
predetermined interval, wherein the predetermined
interval has been selected to permit the desired
percentage conversion of amorphous to crystalline